COURSE OUTLINE

Mountain-guide curriculum and practice weekends

A curriculum map connecting geography, navigation, local interpretation and group leadership with practice in the field. An English planning edition drawn from Russian and French teaching programmes and the 2015 weekend plan.

Archive synthesis / edition 1.0

Edited learning material / September 2026

Explain the place

The Russian programme begins with the geography of Kyrgyzstan: location, relief, climate, water and mountain landscapes. It adds geological history, glaciers, Issyk Kul, social and economic geography, and protected areas. Expected outcomes repeatedly ask the learner to explain the country and answer visitors' questions.

The French outline groups the physical and living mountain environment with flora, fauna, forests and the relationship between people and mountains. The Russian programme also includes history and culture presentations in the foreign language being studied.

Planning exercise: choose a stop on a route and connect one geographical topic, one cultural topic and one question a visitor might ask. Identify the sources a learner should consult.

Navigate and prepare

The cartography topics cover scale, coordinates, measurement, a route sketch and a terrain profile. Practical work introduces map-based orientation and technical tools such as GPS. The French outline adds compass, altimeter, slope direction and navigation.

First aid, evacuation, weather, nutrition and hygiene appear as specialist teaching areas across the programmes. This curriculum map lists them as areas requiring appropriate instruction; it does not reproduce treatment instructions or replace practical assessment.

Planning exercise: pair each navigation topic with an observable task. Identify the equipment, the learning setting and who will supervise the task.

Lead and communicate

The programmes treat guiding as communication as well as subject knowledge. Pedagogy includes the guide's role, methods of instruction, leadership, meetings, passing on information and the conditions for good communication.

The practical plan includes a session on giving and discussing briefings and a later block on group problems. Use these as opportunities for learners to practise speaking, listening and coordinating, followed by feedback from the facilitator.

Planning exercise: ask a learner to brief an activity, then ask another learner to explain what they understood. Use the difference to improve the briefing.

Plan the practice weekends

The 2015 plan uses two weekends. Repeated activities include observing the sky, orienteering, preparing meals, setting up and taking down camp, and checking the site before leaving. The first weekend also includes preparation for evacuation and kitchen hygiene.

The second weekend adds visual terrain analysis and pedagogy. The original spreadsheet contains provisional locations and an inconsistent activity label in its final pedagogy row. Reuse the learning sequence while preparing a fresh operational timetable, staffing plan and assessment method.

Planning exercise: build a weekend around three things a learner must demonstrate. Assign supervised practice, feedback and another attempt. Do not infer a qualification or a verified total duration from the archive.

SOURCE RECORD

Sources and edition

English planning synthesis of the Russian geography programme attributed in the filename to the Geography Department, National University of Bishkek, two French theoretical outlines, and the 2015 practical-weekend plan. Source timetables differ and some totals do not reconcile; no combined course duration or current accreditation is claimed. Discussion prompts are editorial additions.

Source documents

Guide courses by Geo department National University of Bishkek.docx

Structure de cours guide FR.doc

Structure des cours théoriques.doc

planning des cours pratique 2015.xls